<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

2.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data that has been entered;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

3.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

6. (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data representing an image that has been read;

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

7. (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data that has been entered;

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

8. (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising:

a reading step, of reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

a storage step, of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in a memory;

a transmitting step, of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory; and

an adding step, of adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data after said reading step and before said storage step.

9.   (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto;

compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data representing an image that has been read;

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

12.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

13.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

14.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

15.   (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

17. (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

18. (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

19.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information which has been compressed according to a compression format identical to the compression format of the image data, and transmitting this image data.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information which has been compressed according to a compression format identical with the compression format of the image data, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing the image data.

22.   (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

23. (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

24. (Previously Presented) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer, and transmitting this the image data without expanding or compressing it.

27. (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer.

28. (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer.

29.   (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

30.   (Canceled)

31.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information, and transmitting ~~this~~ the image data without expanding or compressing it.